

## Edward Livingston to Andrew Jackson, January 16, 1835, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

### EDWARD LIVINGSTON TO JACKSON.

Paris, January 16, 1835.

*My Dear General*, I wrote a hasty line to you yesterday referring to my public Despatches for my Situation here which is I assure you a very embarrassing one, arising principally from [fear] least the Course I have persued may not have been that which you would have directed. I adopted it principally from the Consideration that I ought not to receive directions from any source but yours still less from a foreign Government, and that whether my recall was to follow that of M. Serrurier was a matter for you to decide not for the Government of France or for me, that although I have little doubt what your decision will be it was my Duty to await it however disagreeable it might be to my feelings. I was also greatly influenced by the Consideration, that as the law for executing the treaty was to be submitted immediately to the Chambers, and its passage would preserve peace between the two Nations, my presence might be useful in Effecting it, but while these Considerations had great weight with me I thought it due to the dignity of my Government to State explicitly to that of France that, I held myself accountable only to you, and would wait your Orders unless they took upon themselves the respon[sibility] of Directing me to Depart. Since I have Done this I find that my Conduct has been approved by all the members of the Diplomatic body with whom I have conversed and nearly all of them have since called on me. but your approbation is of Course that which it most interests me to receive, and I wait with anxiety for the expression of your Opinion. My Note to C'te de Rigny<sup>1</sup> was delivered to him yesterday early, and as it is now four in the afternoon and

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I have no Answer, I presume it has perplexed them a little, what to say, as I supposed it would.

1 Count H. G. de Rigny, French minister for foreign affairs 1834–1835.

The Offer of my passports having been published in the Moniteur I have freely Communicated the purport of my Note to M'r De Rigny in Answer to it. I receive from home absolutely Nothing but a few news papers and no letters but from my family, so that I am necessarily left to my own conjectures of probable events at a time when Information of any kind, would be most useful.

I am with the sincerest attachment and respect